Our Dumb Animals.

"WE SPEAK FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES."

"I would not enter on my list of friends,
Though graced with polished manners and fine sense,
Yet wanting sensibility, the man
Who needlessly sets foot upon a worm."— *Cowper.*

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Our Dumb Animals.

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GEORGE T. ANGELL, ... *President.*
HENRY SALTONSTALL, ... *Treasurer.*
FRANK B. FAY, ... *Secretary.*
CHARLES A. CURRIER, ... *Special Agent.*

The Romance of a Donkey.

Poor foal of an oppressed race,
I love the languid patience of thy face;
And oft with gentle hand I give thee bread,
And clap thy ragged coat, and pat thy head.
—[COLERIDGE.

Among the various stories of pet animals, we do not remember any regarding the donkey. The creature is too abject, too much of a drudge, to be thought intelligent or capable of showing affection in return for kind treatment. That kindness, however, will not be thrown away on this humble and willingly useful animal, we propose to tell a story of "Donald" a small donkey, a native of Ireland, who was bought by a hard-working saddler at Loarhead, a village near Edinburgh. The saddler, though young, was not robust. A consciousness of failing health had led him to make the purchase of the donkey, in the hope that when properly trained and equipped with a small spring-cart, he might be of use in driving about the neighborhood. The first thing the saddler did was to train Donald to run in harness, and the training was effected with a care and gentleness that won universal admiration. Good usage was not thrown away. The animal diligently, and we might almost say with a degree of gratitude, exerted himself in the work to which he was put.

The saddler's illness was a grievous misfortune. He was attacked by consumption, and daily becoming more feeble, he could neither benefit by driving about with Donald, nor could he work. His business fell off; it ceased. Day by day, poverty crept over the miserable establishment. The children could no longer indulge in the luxury of giving Donald crusts of bread. They had barely food for themselves, and were fain to make up for deficiencies by bringing in from the roadsides a double allowance of thistles and grass for Donald.

In his last days, in order to enjoy the sunshine, the dying man had a seat outside his dwelling, and on such occasions the donkey, as if conscious of his master's infirmity, was pleased to stand beside him, looking mournfully in his face. When the invalid spoke a few kind words, Donald came affectionately to him and laid his head fondly on his shoulder, and so he would remain till his master had done speaking. When the saddler became so ill as to be confined to bed, the donkey would stand for hours at the window listening for his master's voice, and was glad to be called into the sick room to be patted. It was affecting to see how deeply the invalid was interested in the faithful animal. When barely able to sit up in bed, he called for Donald's harness, which needed a little mending; and this was the last piece of work that he was able to execute. What was to come of the family when the head of the house was removed? The dismal state of affairs was at times discussed by the disconsolate husband and wife. It was a blank look-out. To discharge obligations, every atom of property would probably have to be sold off.

"Jeanie," said the saddler faintly, a day or two before his death, "I say, Jeanie, I should like you to keep Donald for my sake; but I fear ye'll hae to pairt wi' him; ye canna keep him. I thocht we could hae made him a usefu' beast, by lettin' him out for hire, and sae bringin' in a little siller. If ye could manage to keep him, it would be a grand thing for you and the bairns, when I'm ta'en away.

It was evident that the poor man viewed the pet donkey as in some sort a means of livelihood for his bereaved family.

"He canna do the work o' a horse, puir fellow," she observed, "but he's very willin'. He would work till he fa's doon. I never kenn'd sic a willin' cratur. And he's sic a guid-natured wee beastie! Keep yorsel' easy, Andrew, about Donald. We'll try to make a fend. I wadna wonder but we might make half-a-croon a day out o' him, and Donald no a preen the waur."

As if aware of the misfortune impending over the family, the little animal was dull and listless; he did not gambol about as was his wont, neither did he seek to stretch himself before the kitchen fire in the society of the children. During the last day of his master's life, he visited the door of the sick-room, throwing forward and sidewise his long ears, to hear, if possible, any sounds which might be addressed to him. On the circumstances being reported to the saddler, Donald was permitted once more to enter the apartment. It was a mournful scene. Wife and children were assembled round the death-bed, to which, drawn by affection, Donald closely advanced, as if to bid a final adieu to one he dearly loved. With life fleeting fast away, the invalid could only with a kind look lay his pallid hand on the meek face of the faithful animal, faintly murmuring the words, "Poor Donald"; and shortly afterwards he breathed his last.

As there was no money to pay the debts a public auction was inevitable, and among the articles advertised, a prominent place was given to the fondly cherished "Donald."

On the day of the sale, he munched his grass and thistles in the wooden booth with his accustomed gravity, though the children's attentions were a little boisterous. One patted his face, another rubbed him down with a wisp of straw, while a third clasped him around the neck, crying bitterly, as if his heart were like to break. They were distracted with the possibility of losing Donald, and what could console them?

He was bid off by a gentleman of the neighborhood, who soon after entered the cottage, and sought out its mistress in her grief and obscurity. Laying his hand on her shoulder he spoke to her a few kind words. "Do not be so distressed about the loss of your favorite donkey. I have bought it for you, and you need only pay the price, when you are able to do so, after settling your husband's affairs. Make a good use of the little animal, as you designed, for the benefit of yourself and children.

The woman looked up wonderingly and gratefully. "It is very kind o' you, sir," she said, "but I have na words to thank ye. For what ye hae done, ye'll hae the blessing o' the widow and fatherless. . . . . —*Selected.*

The heart is hard in nature and unfit
For human fellowship, as being void
Of sympathy, and therefore dead alike
To love and friendship both, that is not pleas'd
With sight of animals enjoying life,
Nor feels their happiness augment his own.
COWPER.

How to Protect Birds.

Dr. Brehm of Berlin, in a speech made at the Vienna Congress, thus answers the question, "What measures are to be taken for the protection of birds useful to the land culturist?" in a precise manner, referring only to such means as promise real success. He places as the most prominent measures to be adopted the following:—

1. General instruction in the nature and influence of native animals and birds.

2. Promotion of instruction in natural history by the introduction of an exhaustive manual of zoölogy and botany in the educational course of public and high schools.

3. Promotion and an active interest in the rational efforts of societies for the protection of animals.

4. Dissemination of useful knowledge in this direction, through gratis distribution of good books by the government and societies for the general weal.

5. Especially the distribution of a popular, compendious, well illustrated manual and handbook of native animals and plants to all foresters, village school teachers, rural clergymen and other persons of local influence.

6. Establishment of small collections in schools for the purpose of object teaching.

He adds: "And then, if all schools possess a collection of the animals and birds of the district, results will be accomplished surpassing the boldest expectations." First, then, after a knowledge of ornithology has been acquired, is the protection of the useful kinds possible? Then, to induce the winged visitors to become localized, habitations must be provided for them, not alone in nest-boxes, but in trees and hedges and thick underwood, which must be cultivated for them if not there already. "Do not," says Dr. Brehm, "when thinning wood, lop off every branch that has a hole in it, but where in gardens and grounds such hollow trees and branches are wanting, then provide the little nest-boxes and hang them on the trees." Altogether the substance of Dr. Brehm's address was that the first thing to be done in protecting the birds is to teach their use or harm in the schools, and place the useful birds and animals under the care of the people.

THEY WANT TO SPEAK.—"You see Gyp bids you welcome," said Adam, "and he's very slow to welcome strangers." "Poor dog!" said Dinah, patting the rough, gray coat, "I've a strange feeling about the dumb things as if they wanted to speak, and it was a trouble to 'em because they couldn't. I can't help being sorry for the dogs always, though, perhaps, there's no need. But they may well have more in them than they know how to make us understand, for we can't say half what we feel, with all our words."—*From Adam Bede.*

Care of Animals.

The "Personal Recollections of Mary Somerville," illustrate the high traits of character that distinguished her in many directions. They show her constant thoughtfulness for animals and how keenly the abuses of them were felt by her, whether occasioned by habit, brutality, or in the name of science. In a nature so well balanced as Mrs. Somerville's we had a right to expect no one-sidedness, and this expectation was fully met. While her rare intellect was much employed upon abstract investigations which comparatively few of either sex can follow, her family, the public interests with which English and Italian statesmen had to deal, the claims of humanity, in their manifold aspects, each and all received her best and continuous attention. Whatever was liberal and really progressive in her day had her heartfelt and outspoken sympathy. Her breadth and wholeness add weight to all her views, and give a bright distinctness to her position and work in the world. —*Advertiser.*

My Dog.

BY MARY FRANCIS, BRIGHT BANK, WOODSTOCK, VERMONT.

Dead—and my heart died with him!
Buried—what love lies there!
Gone forever and ever,
No longer my life to share!
"Only a dog!" Yes—"only!"
Yet these are bitter tears!
Weary, and heartsick, and lonely,
I turn to the coming years.

Something that *always* loved me!
Something that I could *trust!*
Something that cheered and soothed me,
Is mouldering here to dust!
Gentle, and faithful, and noble—
Patient, and tender, and brave—
My pet, my playmate, my darling—
And this is his lonely grave.

I go to my empty chamber,
And linger before the door—
There once was a loving welcome—
I shall listen for that no more!
I sit by my blazing hearthstone,
And lean my head on my hand—
The best of my wayward nature
Lies low with the Newfoundland!

One plank—when the ship was sinking
In a wild and stormy sea—
One star when the sky was darkened,
Was the love of my dog to me!
A star that will shine no longer—
A plank that has missed my hand;
And the ship may sail or founder—
No watcher is on the strand.

I stand on my sunny upland
This beautiful autumn morn—
The crimson-leaved maple o'er me,
Fronting the golden corn;
I hear the brook in the valley—
It sings as it sang of yore—
But the faithful eyes that watched it
Will answer to mine no more!

Over that sunny upland;
And climbing the breezy hill,
Haunting the depths of the woodland,
Lonely and silent still—
Silent and lonely always,
I know that *this* life must be—
But in the unseen future—
What is in store for me?

Oh! well may the Indian hunter
Lie calm on his couch of skins
When the pain of *this* world ceases,
And the joy of the *next* begins!
On the "Great Spirit's" prairies,
Under blue skies of yore,
Will not his steed and watch-dog
Answer his call once more?

Blue hunting-grounds of the red man,
Cannot *I* dream the dream?
Surely my old companion
But waits till I cross the stream!
Waits with a faithful yearning,
Almost akin to pain—
Till in some *lesser* heaven
He *bounds* to my feet again.

NOTE.—We published the above poem some months ago, taken from another paper, giving credit to another author. We are glad to republish it, giving credit where credit is due.—ED.

A Talking Robin.

A talking robin is described in Hardwicke's Science Gossip, by Mr. Alfred Carpenter, who vouches for the truth of the statement made by the owner of the wonderful bird. This robin was captured, while young, by a pet dog, and, after recovery from his fright, was domesticated. He not only imitates the notes of canary-birds, but has learned to whistle from his mistress. He has now learned to speak the words, "Pretty Bobby," the pet name by which he has long been called. It having been found that he imitated those words, the formula was changed to "Sweet Bobbie," which he imitated very distinctly; and he now utters, not quite so distinctly, the phrase, "Pretty little fellow." Mr. Carpenter is a strong advocate of the theory that birds can communicate with each other by language.—*From the Artisan.*

The First Spring Bird.

* * * The early bird appears to be nothing more than a tuneful voice, carrying about with it a downy bunch of feathers. How it received the invitation to come, and why it came while the fields are still desolate, is a profound mystery. We wonder what could have induced it to quit the live-oak forests and orange groves of Florida, and the sprouting cotton and rice of the Carolinas, for the inhospitable bleakness of a northern March.**

The first song bird, I hold, is as miraculous as Jonah's gourd. Its instincts, mode of existence, its very being, are a mystery. There it sits at home on the limb of your gnarled apple-tree, chock full of adventures and experience of travel you would give your eyes to know, and pouring all out in a tangled, careless strain of music, from a heart brimming over with joy. There he sits, the John Baptist of spring, and prophesies to the woods and fields, saying, "Prepare ye the way of the anemone and the violet, the clover-top and the daisy."

The little fellow must shiver and moan, we fancy, in that sour weather of which so much that we call the spring is composed, when even the first grass-blades look as if they longed to creep back into the earth for protection. But never comes a cry or groan from our hero. You will hear him singing on the skirts of a snow-squall, when his toes must ache with the cold, as if he had found a rift in the cloud where the peace of heaven was smiling down into his heart. With no visible means of support, with no abiding place, who can tell but he drinks of the river of life and picks the berries of the tree that grows on its borders?

The more his step-dame, March, scolds the little fellow, the more he quirks his head and dresses his feathers, and gives quick, defiant glances with his bright eyes. See him on a plum-tree bough picking gum from the smooth purple limbs, while the wind ruffles his feathers with an ungentle hand. Still he clings with his tenacious pink claws, and then takes a short flight, warbling and twittering on the wing, as if the song would not allow itself to be repressed. * * *—*Augusta Larned, in Christian Union.*

Pets.

Caged birds, when gently and skilfully dealt with, become members of the family, and draw to themselves the affection even of rude natures,

It is affecting to see how coarse and uneducated men long for something on which to lavish affection. Men frequently have a stronger love for a dog, or a favorite horse, than for any human being. Sailors and soldiers are famous for their love of pets. There is an elderly lady at one of the resorts on the sea-coast, whose hens are to her as members of her family, and who would as soon think of killing a niece, or cousin, as suffering her hens to be decapitated. They live joyfully, die in honor, and go to their graves lamented.

A man who has long owned a fine horse, journeyed with him, been borne through dangers by him, cannot endure to think that death ends his career. If the children have been fond of him, and he has become associated with the whole family, he rises out of the brute creation and is clothed by the heart and imagination with human attributes. —*Beecher.*

The Bee's Cell.

Many years ago, a distinguished naturalist, named Miraldi, noticing that the walls of honey-comb cells had always the same angles, measured them and found that they exactly equalled two right angles, or 180 degrees. Sometime after, a great mathematician was requested to make a calculation that should secure, for a vessel of a similar form, "the greatest amount of space with the least amount of material." The result was exactly such a figure as the bee has made through all ages. How wonderfully this displays the exactness with which all the works of God are made. "In wisdom hast Thou made them all." And, working under His direction, even the humblest of His creatures is sure not to err. C. C.

[For Our Dumb Animals.]

A Just Retribution.

John Mark was the most unmerciful man to his horses in all our village. He was too poor to own good ones, but the instant he took his seat in his carriage his poor hacks would start almost on a run. Experience had taught them that anything else would bring down tortures beyond endurance. He was malicious, too, and would tease a horse, when standing in the stable, until it was incited to kick, and then would violently punish it. He was angry at his horse one day for kicking, and fastened the carriage to its tail, and compelled it to travel in that way for several miles. In the afternoon he compelled it to plough in the same manner, for half a day.

The next morning was the Sabbath. Mark was very punctual in his attendance at church, and made a great display of religion in times of revival. After a hearty breakfast he went out to harness his horse. The poor, tortured creature, expecting a repetition of the treatment of the day before, kicked his brutal master in the chest, with all his force. He staggered against the stable-wall, and however strong the will might have been, he had no power to inflict the punishment he wished. He was able to stagger to the house, and lie down upon his bed, but he never rose from it again. God's retributive justice had aimed the blow, and brought to a close his career of cruelty, while he was yet in the meridian of life. What an evil work he would have wrought, if he had been permitted to fill up his threescore years and ten! It seemed fitting that one who had made such a business of cruelty to horses, should come to his death by a horse. CECIL.

[Correspondence.]

Cruelty on Canals.

Something should be done for the mules and horses on canals. I never realized how terribly they were abused until observing them closely at and near Harper's Ferry last year. Their collars set into actual holes, on top of the neck, with ridges of swollen or calloused flesh, both front and back, and all around their poor necks it was one ring of sores. "Canal navigation" is a horrible thing to me, and the name always brings recollection of the poor suffering slaves of the tow-path.

Mules at the coal-mines are also sadly abused. But, alas! how the subject grows and enlarges as one dwells upon it, or observes "man's inhumanity." M.

Rat-Roasting.

In speaking of a man who roasted two live white rats, the Birmingham (Eng.) "Mail" says:—

We know of no language sufficiently contemptuous in which to describe such fiendish cruelty. A man who would roast alive any animal, wild or domestic, for the mere purpose of inflicting pain, is very inferior in the scale of creation to vermin and creeping things. It is bad enough to boil lobsters alive, and roast geese alive for their livers, and bleed calves to death for the requirements of the table; but the motiveless cruelty which inflicts pain simply for the sake of inflicting it, is the most degraded instinct of which humanity is capable.

The Birmingham (Eng.) society exhibits great activity. Some of their published documents have been recently sent to us, which exhibit an earnestness worthy of imitation. We shall publish some extracts from these papers.

[Communicated.]

Death of another Pet Member.

Allow me to inform you of the death of Kitty White, who has been so long a member of your society. She was a tortoise-shell cat, of great beauty and intelligence, and lived to the age of fourteen years. She has left a daughter of the same name, who will take her place as an annual member. I enclose her first subscription of five dollars. J.

He Planned for the Birds.

Little birds sit on the telegraph-wires,
And chitter, and flitter, and fold their wings;
Maybe they think that for them and their sires
Stretched always, on purpose, those wonderful strings;
And perhaps the thought that the world inspires
Did plan for the birds, among other things.

Little birds sit on the slender lines,
And the news of the world runs under their feet;
How value rises, and how declines,
How kings with their armies in battle meet;
And all the while, 'mid the soundless signs,
They chirp their small gossipings, foolish-sweet.

Little things light on the lines of our lives,—
Hopes, and joys, and acts of to-day;
And we think that for these the Lord contrives,
Nor catch what the hidden lightnings say;
Yet from end to end His meaning arrives,
And His word runs underneath all the way.

Is life only wires and lightnings then,
Apart from that which about it clings?
Are the thoughts, and the works, and the prayers of men
Only sparrows that light on God's telegraph-strings,
Holding a moment, and gone again?
Nay! He planned for the birds, with the larger things.

—*Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney.*

Favorite Cats.

There are plenty of good cats, and always have been, whose shrine is still the hearth-rug, who repudiate familiarity from strangers, but are loyal to the home that shelters them, discriminatingly affectionate, daintily clean, philosophically meditative, thoroughly respectable,—cats who enable you to understand the feeling which caused Southey to confer honors on his cats, and even raise one to the peerage, with the title of "Earl Tomlemagne, Baron Raticide, Waowlher and Skaratchi."

I like, personally, to have good authority for my peculiarities, and I can assure those who like cats that they like them on good security. Not to mention the sacred character given to them by the Egyptian and Scandinavian mythologies, they have also unto this day with the Mahommedans a kind of imputed goodness, because of the affection with which the prophet of that faith regarded his own particular favorite; for he allowed her to make the bosom of his robe the nursery of her kittens, and once cut off the sleeve of his robe rather than disturb her midday siesta.

Petrarch had his cat, when dead, embalmed, and Rousseau shed some really genuine tears over the loss of his. When Dr. Johnson's cat was ill—"Great Bear" though he was called—he nevertheless nursed it night and day, and went himself for the oysters with which he tempted its returning appetite. Cowper did not disdain to write the elegy for his favorite Tabby, and even Scott, "the dog-loving" as he grew old, learned to appreciate the cat's quiet affection and peaceful companionship; while there is no pleasanter picture in all Montaigne's writings than that the old Gascon philosopher draws of himself and puss playing together in his study.—*Amelia E. Barr, in Christian Union.*

THE Acclimation Society of Cincinnati lately received $3,000 worth of birds from Germany, which they intend to let loose in the spring. There are among these many varieties new to this country.

I AM always afraid lest dogs should come to learn our language. If ever they do, they will cut us entirely. Everything seems clever and uncommonplace in a language of which you know but little, and that is why we appear such clever and interesting fellows to dogs. If they knew our language well, would any dog sit out a public dinner? —*Arthur Helps.*

[For Our Dumb Animals.]

A Canary's Lesson.

The following anecdote was told me by a very sweet and gentle-hearted person, who has found through her life great happiness and good from watching and caring for animals.

She had a pair of canaries, and thinking they needed something bright and fresh in their lives, she went out and dug a sod of grass and clover, the size of their cage. After a time three young birds were hatched, of whom, judging by what followed, the parents took uncommonly good care. One morning, the female, having taken her bath, hopped on the edge of the nest, intending to take her place with her young ones under her wings, but without having dried herself. The male flew to her and scolded her a little; still she persisted, when he resolutely beat her away. Finding she was still determined to come on the nest, he settled himself there and covered his children with his own wings until she was properly dried, which was not for half an hour, during which time he twittered at her incessantly. Then, having seen that she had shaken out and smoothed her feathers, he left the nest and allowed her to resume her maternal duties,—a wiser and a better wife and mother. H. C. M.

[For Our Dumb Animals.]

Vivisection.

Thinking even science too dearly purchased by systematic cruelty, I am glad to see, in the "Personal Recollections of Mary Somerville," her estimate of that art, and of one of its practitioners then living. She says, pp. 192, 193:—

"The Marquise de la Place was commissioned by Dr. Majendie to invite me to meet her and Madame Gay-Lussac at dinner. I was very unwilling to go; for I detested the man for his wanton cruelties, but I found I could not refuse on account of these ladies. There was a large party of *savants*, agreeable and gentlemanly; but Majendie himself had the coarsest manners; his conversation was horridly professional; many things were said and subjects discussed not fit for women to hear. What a contrast the refined and amiable Sir Charles Bell formed with Majendie! Majendie and the French school of anatomy made themselves odious by their cruelty, and failed to prove the true anatomy of the brain and nerves, while Sir Charles Bell did succeed, and thus made one of the greatest physiological discoveries of the age without torturing animals, which his gentle and kindly nature abhorred." C. K. W.

MARCH 6th, 1874.

BIRDS.—In Vienna, the great agriculturists, horticulturists, forest-culturists and ornithologists have come to a unanimous decision, not only that useful birds are a necessity to agricultural prosperity, but that international laws must be established, so that the wanton destruction of the migratory useful birds be prohibited. Take for instance the lark, a very useful bird, which returns among the earliest to Germany in the spring-time, and is a very industrious insect-devourer. But it is a very mouthy bird, and the gourmands of Germany pay a good price for the dozen. So on the plains about Leipsic they are slaughtered every year by the half million; and if they escape destruction there they meet it again in a more fatal form when they reach Italy and the entire Mediterranean coast, for the Italians inflict an incredible slaughter upon the migratory birds. And between the two the German agriculturist's crops suffer from the raids of caterpillar's, larvæ, grubs and what not, but he complains in vain, since there are no international laws.

HER love for birds and all other animals continued through her life; and wherever she had the least influence she used it for the protection of birds and for the prevention of cruelty to animals. —*Memoir of Mary Somerville.*

Our Dumb Animals.

Boston, April, 1874.

Annual Meeting.

At the annual meeting of the Society held on 31st ult., the following Directors were elected for the ensuing year:—

Geo. T. Angell.	Henry S. Russel.
Russell Sturgis, Jr.	Gardner Chilson.
W. W. Morland.	C. L. Heywood.
D. D. Slade.	Saml. E. Sawyer.
George Noyes.	Henry P. Kidder.
Thomas Conery.	G. J. F. Bryant.
Wm. G. Weld.	W. H. Baldwin.
Mrs. Wm. Appleton.	Henry S. Washburn.
Mrs. J. C. Johnson.	Patrick Donahoe.
Miss Ann Wigglesworth.	Joseph White.
Miss Helen Bigelow.	Abraham Firth.
Miss Alice M. Wellington.	John B. Taft.
Mrs. C. D. Homans.	Frank B. Fay.
Miss Florence Lyman.	

The Treasurer, Henry Saltonstall, made his annual report.

The Secretary's review will appear in May paper.

At a subsequent meeting of the Directors the following officers were elected:—

Geo. T. Angell, *President;*
Henry Saltonstall, *Treasurer;*
Frank B. Fay, *Secretary;*

and one hundred Vice-Presidents whose names will appear in our May paper.

The clergymen of Boston have been invited to meet on 9th inst., to hear an address from Mr. Angell on the cause we represent, with the hope of increasing their interest in the subject.

Don't let Them Stand.

It often happens that complaints are made at the office that horses are left standing in the streets or squares of the city for hours, sometimes all day, without food or water, and frequently without suitable covering in bad weather. The city ordinance forbids such standing beyond twenty minutes, and it can be enforced at any time. But parties leave their horses on private property, like Pemberton Square, for instance, where the ordinance has no effect. We have lately made an arrangement with the owners of this square, which will authorize us to remove horses found standing there an unreasonable time uncared for.

This practice grows out of thoughtlessness, oftentimes, the owners of horses "not intending to stay long," but become interested in business or otherwise, and forget their suffering animals.

But some parties practice it to save the half dollar that it would cost to put their horse in a livery stable for the day. It is poor economy and worse humanity.

Subscribers Wanted.

We send this month's paper to a large number of persons, hoping they may subscribe for it, as it is our desire to make the paper self-supporting, so as to relieve our treasury of this expense. We trust we "give the money's worth" to every subscriber.

The attention of our friends is invited to the essay on the "Humane Killing of Animals," which we publish in another column. The author, Dr. Slade, needs no encomium from us.

Red-hot Shoes.

In an essay on Horseshoeing by Prof. Fleming, there occur the following passages:—

"*Hot and Cold Fitting.*—For very many years, the two systems of fitting horseshoes in a cold and a heated condition to the hoofs have been extensively and severely tested, and, the result has been, that cold fitting is, as a rule, only resorted to when circumstances prevent the adoption of the other method, or when the owner of a horse imagining that the hot shoe injures the foot, incurs the risks attending a bad fit to guard against this imaginary evil. * * * It may be sufficient to state, that the evils supposed to result from fitting the shoes hot to the hoofs are purely chimerical. * * * Horn is a very slow conductor of heat, and it requires a very prolonged application of the hot shoe to affect the hoof to any considerable depth. Three minutes burning of the lower face of the sole, has been found necessary to produce any indication of increase of temperature by the thermometer on its upper surface. *It is never required that the shoe should be applied longer than a few seconds.*
* * * All the highest veterinary authorities who have studied the subject are unanimous in recommending hot fitting in preference to cold.
* * * It (the hot shoe), shows the workman at a glance the bearing of the shoe on the hoof.
* * * On no occasion ought the shoe to remain longer on the hoof than is necessary to produce a solid, perfectly level surface."

This essay obtained the prize of £50, offered by the Scottish Society P. C. A., open for a year to competitors over the whole world. The offer was advertised and commended in our columns at the time. Prof. Fleming is veterinary to the Royal Engineers, and is a constant correspondent of the "Animal World," the organ of the Royal Society P. C. A., London, which paper spoke of this book as follows:—

"An excellent work, to which we direct the attention of all persons engaged in preventing cruelty. This work is a prize essay, and is worthy a place in every library, in every house and every forge."

The essay was subsequently republished by the Appletons, of New York, and we purchased and distributed a large number of copies of this essay to the blacksmiths of this State. No one will deny that the essay is a very valuable one in many respects, and has given more information to our blacksmiths than they could readily obtain from the same number of pages elsewhere.

But we have been blamed for distributing a book containing the above passages, which many contend advocates an error. The oft-quoted question, "Who shall decide when doctors disagree?" occurs to us as applicable here. Our answer would be, "Every man for himself, when he has taken reasonable pains to inform himself."

Doubtless there are other statements in this essay, which would be criticised by other veterinaries, or by blacksmiths or inventors of horseshoes.

If we should undertake to defend or condemn all the theories which friends of animals and friends of the Society advance, our record would, in common parlance, be "decidedly mixed."

For instance: we have on our table, to-day, at least ten different kinds of horseshoes, the maker of each of which, doubtless, believes his is the best ever invented, and yet the theories upon which each is based are as varied as men's views of politics or religion.

We think it better for us to present the various specimens, and allow each observer to decide for himself. To be sure, one committee at one fair may decide in favor of one particular shoe, but it does not follow that in another contest another may not be preferred.

What we favor is *discussion* and examination, and repeated trials, and out of these truth is elicited, but we do not mean to be partisan in any case.

Suppose, when we have occasion to call upon veterinary surgeons, as we often do, to testify in court as "experts," we should always call a homeopathist and never an allopathist, or *vice versa*. Would this be wise or fair? What we want is a man of skill, one who knows the structure and diseases of a horse, and can testify whether the disability of the horse is permanent or not. How he would treat that disability, if called upon, is not for us to inquire. So in regard to shoeing horses, there are very many theories. Whether Fleming is right or wrong we do not pretend to say, although we are assured by skilful veterinaries that his theory is correct. We felt that very many blacksmiths had little knowledge of the construction of the horse's foot, and that many horses were ruined by bad shoeing, hence we desired to call public attention to the subject.

And, we believe, that the distribution of this essay has caused more discussion, and has induced more horse-owners to seek information on this subject, than anything that has been done in this State for the last twenty years.

And that is what we sought; information, inquiry, investigation, not only in this, but in all other matters concerning animals, is what we seek and what the people need. Any thoughtful person will see that if we wait for perfection in any work we issue, we shall wait till the millenium, and if we feel assured we have reached it here, *somebody will be sure not to agree with us.* And we are quite willing to grant every one the right of private judgment. Of course we would not intentionally put forward a work which we *believed* to be decidedly erroneous, or to have been written by a man ignorant of the subject; but we must trust to men who are *supposed* to be well-informed, and that reputation few men are more entitled to than Prof. Fleming.

Important to Agents.

Many of our agents have failed to forward their returns for the last quarter.

We desire to receive them *at once*, in order to make up our returns for the year.

Please forward them at first convenience.

☞ Special Notice to Agents.

By Section 7 of our Statute, all fines imposed for its violation are payable to the Society when complaints are made by our agents. Agents are requested to notify the court that they enter the complaint as our representative.

Whenever it is inconvenient for the clerk of a police or district court, or for a trial justice, to forward the fine to us, the Agent will confer a favor by collecting and remitting at once, if possible, with the report of the prosecution, that the case may be closed on our books. In all appealed cases where conviction is obtained, the sheriff of the county will forward the fine, when reminded by the Agent that the case is ours.

How to Kill Animals Humanely.

BY D. D. SLADE, M. D.,

[Professor of Applied Zoology at the Bussey Institution, Harvard University, and one of the Directors of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.]

This essay is intended to give instruction to those who desire to terminate the existence of animals in the most speedy and humane manner, whether such animals are intended for food, or whether they have become useless through age, sickness or other cause. When we reflect upon the vast number of animals which are put to death in our own country alone, for food, estimated at more than fifty millions every year, not to speak of the thousands that are destroyed for other reasons; and when we bear in mind that a great proportion of these animals are put to death, often with the most needless cruelty, simply through ignorance of the proper method of producing speedy death,—it will be readily admitted that an attempt to enlighten the public in this respect may at least serve to diminish the amount of such cruelty, and indirectly lead to other equally satisfactory results. While we write more especially for the farmer, who is from circumstances obliged to slaughter his own animals, and for those who are called upon reluctantly to rid themselves of some fond but disabled pet, we also desire to call the attention of those who pursue the slaughtering of animals as a business to the great necessity of doing their work in the most humane manner possible. To this end, there are certain measures of importance to be kept in view, and to be carried into practice.

PRECAUTIONS.

Thus, the animal to be slaughtered should be conducted to the spot selected as quietly as possible, without the use of goad or club, and everything calculated to alarm him should be removed. All slaughtering premises should be kept thoroughly cleansed from blood and offal, and no carcasses be allowed to hang in view. No animal should be permitted to witness the death of another. Trifling as these measures may appear to the professional butcher, they are in reality of vast importance, not only in view of avoiding useless cruelty, but as affecting the wholesomeness of meat for food, and the market value of the animal slaughtered; there being no question as to the effects of torture, cruelty and fear upon the secretions, and if upon the secretions, necessarily upon the flesh.

METHODS.

The slaughtering of animals for food at the present day may be classified under three methods: 1. Rendering the animals insensible by a blow on the head, followed by bleeding. 2. Cutting through or injuring the spinal cord (pithing), so as to destroy the powers of motion and sensation, with subsequent bleeding. 3. Cutting the throat, deeply dividing all the blood-vessels, with or without thrusting the knife into the heart, and without previously stunning the animal. This last method is practised by the Jews.

From certain experiments conducted for the purpose a few years since in the abattoirs of Paris, it would seem that the first of these methods, namely, that of producing insensibility by some sudden shock to the brain, such as that of a direct and concentrated blow, especially if followed by immediate blood-letting, is attended by less suffering than when death is effected by decapitation, pithing or cutting the throat without previously producing such insensibility.

A German observer (Dr. Sondermann, of Munich) remarks upon this subject: "All methods of slaughtering have for their object the death of the animal in a more or less speedy, but always in the least painful manner possible. But what is death? and when does actual death occur? Simple as these two questions may appear, they are nevertheless very difficult to answer. A mammal whose head has been cut off by a guillotine does not die immediately. Actual death occurs some seconds or minutes afterwards. All methods of slaughtering other than the one in which insensibility is produced by a severe shock to the brain, followed by bleeding, produce, without exception, only apparent death, after which follows the actual death, the latter being always accompanied with an entire cessation of nervous and muscular excitability."

VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY MOTION.

There are two kinds of motion. The one is voluntary, and dependent upon the brain. So long as this organ remains unimpaired, so long will consciousness, sensation and the power of voluntary motion continue. The other is involuntary, and dependent upon the action of the spinal cord as a nervous centre, and is known as reflex action. This kind of motion is exhibited in the movements of animals after decapitation, where all connection with the brain, and consequently with consciousness, has been cut off.

So intimately connected in our minds are pain and action, that in witnessing the slaughter of two animals we are naturally inclined to attribute the greatest amount of suffering to the one that at the time of death exhibits the most violent convulsions. In such a conjecture, however, we may be very much mistaken, for it is possible, nay, even probable, that there may be acute suffering with scarcely a struggle on the part of the animal: while, on the other hand, there may be much struggling, and even distortions, without pain or sensations of any kind, as is often made evident in cases of decapitation, where, as we have just remarked, all connection with the brain has been removed.

Thus we see that the movements of an animal in the act of being killed are not at all to be relied upon as evidences of pain.

PITHING.

The term "pithing" is applied to two methods of inflicting injury to the nervous system, and thereby producing death. By one method, that most commonly in vogue, the spinal cord is severed or punctured between the first and second bones of the neck, where the peculiarity of the articulation leaves an opening. This is done by a variety of instruments. Although the animal drops immediately, life continues for some seconds and even minutes, the heart continues to beat and the brain to live and act. By the other method, a small spot situated in the lower and posterior portion of the brain is reached and broken up by the introduction of a narrow, sharp instrument. Death is almost instantaneous. "No attempt is made at inspiration, there is no struggle, and no appearance of suffering. The animal dies simply by a want of aeration of the blood, which leads in a few moments to an arrest of the circulation." (Dalton's Physiology.) Both of these modes of slaughtering, especially the last, require an anatomical knowledge as well as a practical dexterity that but few would attain, and, if they are not properly and quickly executed, are undoubtedly attended by more suffering than other methods.

SHOULD BE DEPRIVED OF SENSIBILITY.

Without entering further into the consideration of physiological questions of so much importance, we may with safety lay down the following proposition:—

All animals, when slaughtered, should be deprived of sensibility by inflicting sufficient injury to the brain, either by a sudden and violent blow of the axe or mallet, by the bullet, or by some other equally efficient means, and should then be immediately bled during the state of insensibility.

SITUATION OF THE BRAIN.

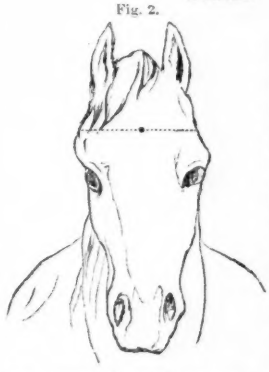
Fig. 1.

It is important to know the exact situation of the brain in animals, so that the shock to this organ may be conveyed effectually and at once, and not by clumsy and ill-directed efforts, as is too often the case.

It should be kept in mind that the brain of animals occupies but a comparatively small portion of the entire head. In the attempt to fell them, the tendency is almost always to strike too low. Fig. 1 represents a longitudinal section of the horse's head, showing the situation of the brain and also the thinness of the frontal bone as compared with the corresponding region in the ox.

HORSES.

Fig. 2.



The horse may be destroyed by blows upon the head, by the bullet, or by chloroform.

1. *By Blows.*—Having blindfolded the horse, the operator, armed with a heavy axe or hammer, should stand upon the side and to the front of the animal, directing his blow to a point in the middle of a line drawn across the forehead from the centre of the pit above the eye. See Fig. 2.

One vigorous and well-directed blow will fell the animal, but the blow should be repeated to make destruction sure.

2. *By the Bullet.*—The operator should stand directly in front of the animal, and place the muzzle of the rifle or pistol within a few inches of the skull, aiming at the spot indicated in Fig. 2.

One shot is generally sufficient, if properly directed in either case; if not, it should be repeated after the animal falls.

In most instances, so great and instantaneous is the shock to the brain from a bullet that death follows instantly.

A shot-gun loaded with buck-shot is effectual and may often be more conveniently procured.

3. *By Chloroform.*—Procure a common feed-bag or small sack made of thick cotton cloth, or of any sufficiently strong material, provided with strings or a strap to fasten over the head, and at the bottom of this place a large sponge or a yard of flannel folded to the size of eight inches square.

The sponge or flannel is to be saturated with chloroform and the bag adjusted. If the suffocation and consequent struggling, which at first attend the administration of anæsthetics, are very great, the application of the chloroform may be gradual, the animal being allowed to respire the outward air for a moment, until these effects pass off. As it is by the exclusion of common air, however, that death is produced, the more persistently the administration of the chloroform is kept up, the more speedy will be the desired result.

The dose requisite varies very much according to circumstances. At least sixteen ounces of chloroform should be procured, and it should be freshly applied through a small slit in the bag every few minutes until death ensues, which will be from five to ten or fifteen minutes after the beginning of the operation.

The difficulties attending the administration of chloroform to so large and powerful an animal as the horse, particularly at the hands of the inexperienced, render its use less applicable than either of the other methods. In cases where sickness and consequent debility have reduced the animal and made him less capable of struggling, it answers a good purpose, or where a pet horse is to be killed, and the owner is unwilling that the deadly blow shall be struck, chloroform may be resorted to, but, as a general rule, we do not recommend its use where the normal amount of strength still remains.

CATTLE.

The skull of the ox is thicker and heavier than that of the horse, and the brain still smaller in

comparison with the entire head. The frontal bone is composed of two plates, which are separ-

Fig. 3.

ated by bony ridges, forming cells or sinuses. This arrangement (seen in Fig. 3, which represents a longitudinal section of the head) gives to the parts great strength, and forms a secure defence against injuries to the brain, which lies beneath.

Cattle are most readily and conveniently destroyed by blows on the head with a heavy axe or hammer, followed by immediate blood-letting. The animal which is to be killed should be secured by means of a rope passed round the horns and fastened to a post, or, if practicable, carried through a ring in a floor and held by an assistant or made fast. The animal being blindfolded, the operator, armed with a heavy axe or hammer, stands at the side and a little in front of it, and aims his blow at a spot in the middle of a line drawn across the forehead about one inch and a half below the base of the horns, or, perhaps better, at a spot where two diagonal lines intersect, drawn from the eyes to the base of the horns. (Fig. 4.)

Fig. 4.

In most cases, if the blow is heavy and properly directed, the animal falls instantly; but it is better even then to repeat the blow, and to follow it by immediate bleeding. This is accomplished either by drawing back the head, and cutting deeply across the neck at the upper portion of the wind-pipe, severing all the blood-vessels, or by plunging a long and sharp-pointed knife into the heart and large blood-vessels at a point corresponding to the upper portion of the brisket, and just above the breast-bone.

Failure to fell the animal at the first blow cannot be attributed to any difference in the anatomical structure of the part, but rather to the fact that the blow was ill-directed, almost invariably too low, that it was not sufficiently powerful, or that both of these faults were combined.

CALVES.

In the slaughtering of calves it is not a common practice with us, as it is with France and other countries, to render them insensible before bleeding, for fear that the brain may be made less inviting as an article of food by being torn and stained with blood. By using a broad mallet this may be in a great measure avoided, and even if these results do follow they do not in reality alter the quality of the brain for edible purposes. Objections to the humane destruction of an animal on such grounds are as unreasonable as those which are made to juicy and wholesome red veal by people who prefer that which has been rendered white, dry and innutritious by repeated bleedings, which have reduced the calf, before death to a lingering condition of faintness and debility.

The calf should first be stunned by a blow upon the head by a broad mallet or hammer, aimed at a spot relatively the same as in the full-grown animal. This is to be followed by immediate bleeding, by severing the throat at a point corresponding to the upper portion of the windpipe, using a sharp knife and doing the work thoroughly and at once, so as to open all the arteries and veins of the neck.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.

Sheep and lambs should be rendered insensible by a blow upon the head, to be followed subsequently by severing the throat, as just advised in the case of calves, or by plunging a sharp-pointed knife through the blood-vessels at either side of the neck between the bones and the windpipe.

The place to be selected for a blow is the centre of a line drawn across the head about two inches above the eyes, the brain in the sheep occupying a situation posterior to what at first sight would appear to be the natural one.

SWINE.

There is an idea prevalent among farmers, and even among many of those who practise the slaughtering of swine as an avocation, that, if these animals are first rendered insensible by blows upon the head, it is impossible to empty the blood-vessels.

There is no foundation, however, for any such opinion. Any obstacles to bleeding are due, not to material differences in the anatomical arrangement of the blood-vessels, but solely to the difficulties attending the cutting through of the great mass of fat and flesh which characterizes the necks of swine in order to reach these vessels. This very difficulty is a reason why the animal should be rendered insensible before bleeding, not only on the score of humanity, but also on the score of avoiding the barbarous sights and sounds which so frequently disgrace our towns and villages.

In Europe generally, the swine are always first rendered insensible by being stunned. They should be made insensible by a blow upon the head, directed, not between the eyes, but upon a spot in the middle of a line drawn across the head three to four inches above the eyes. A long sharp knife should then be thrust deeply through the lower portion of the brisket, at a point just above the breast-bone, severing the large vessels leading from the heart. The point of the knife after it has been thrust in should be swept about and made to cut more extensively in the deep parts than at the surface. This insures the thorough division of the blood-vessels, and the most rapid and effectual bleeding of the animal.

DOGS, CATS, ETC.

Small dogs, cats and other diminutive animals, particularly if sick or in any way disabled, are humanely destroyed by means of chloroform.

This substance should be administered by pouring from two to four tablespoonfuls of it on to a sponge or folded flannel, placed within a thick cloth or towel, and applied over the mouth and nostrils. If the struggling is severe at first, the administration of the chloroform may be made more gradual by removing the sponge or flannel for a moment altogether, and then reapplying it; and, as the animal becomes quiet, it should be kept on closely and constantly, to the entire exclusion of the outward air, adding fresh chloroform from time to time until death occurs. The length of the operation will depend upon the size and condition of the animal, and the persistence with which the administration has been kept up.

As a protection against the struggles of the animal to free itself, the body may be placed in a sack or bag, allowing the head to protrude. Or a blanket may be thrown over the body, by which it may be grasped, while the head is left free for the application of the sponge. Or the animal, together with the saturated sponge, may be placed in a small box and allowed to go quietly to rest.

The young of cats and dogs, when but a few days or hours old, may be humanely destroyed by drowning, if properly executed. This can be best accomplished by placing them in a tight bag containing a stone of sufficient weight to insure speedy sinking.

The quickest method of terminating the existence of a large dog is, undoubtedly, to shoot him. Place the muzzle of a pistol or rifle within a few inches of the head, at the side, just over and in front of the ear. If directed behind the ear, the ball is likely to glance and pass through the soft parts of the neck, and death would neither be so certain nor so instantaneous as if the brain had been pierced.

In the attempt to destroy it, no animal should be merely maimed. For this reason, if a gun or a fowling-piece should be used, it should be charged with buck-shot, the side of the head aimed at, and sufficiently near to insure speedy death.

The same remarks apply to the destruction of cats. As this animal is smaller, however, death may be instantly effected by small shot fired from a gun at the head, sufficiently near to prevent the scattering of the charge.

POULTRY.

The remarks which we have already made as regards producing insensibility by a blow upon the brain may equally apply to poultry, The almost universal method of killing by chopping of the head of a fowl, and allowing the body to flutter about upon the ground, is not an agreeable sight, and has certainly a demoralizing effect upon those who witness it, especially upon the young and those who are not yet callous to such sights. The same may be said also of the practice of opening the blood-vessels in the necks of poultry, and allowing them to bleed to death more or less slowly. Therefore, to produce insensibility, make use of either of the following modes.

1. Grasp the bird by the legs, place its head upon a block, and strike it a smart, quick blow with a small club, or with some equally efficient weapon, and then immediately sever the head from the body by a sharp cleaver or hatchet. Retain the body in the hand until all fluttering has ceased.

2. Taking the bird up, compress the throat between the thumb and finger for a minute. Retaining the grasp, swing the body round several times, and then remove the head as just described. Hence insensibility is produced by suffocation and loss of motion by the twisting of the bones of the neck.

3. A very sharp blow, with a small but heavy stick, behind the neck, at about the second joint from the head, will injure the spinal cord so as to destroy sensation and motion, if properly executed; the head to be afterwards severed from the neck.

4. Hang up the bird by the legs, and thrust a long, narrow, sharp-pointed knife, like a penknife, into the brain through the back part of the roof of the mouth. Death is instantaneous. To do this considerable dexterity is required.

FISH.

It has been observed that fish which are instantly killed on being taken from the water are vastly superior, in taste and solidity, to those which are allowed to die, as is the universal custom with us. And why should this not be the case? Why should we make a distinction in this respect between animals that swim and those that fly or run? No one of us would think of eating beast or bird that had died a natural death. Various modes of killing fish are practised by different people. The Dutch, for example, destroy life by making a slight longitudinal incision under the tail by means of a very sharp instrument.

On the Rhine they kill the salmon by thrusting a steel needle into their heads.

Fish may be easily destroyed by striking them a quick, sharp blow with a small stick on the back of the head just behind the eyes, or by taking them by the tail and striking the head quickly against any hard substance.

POISONS AND GASES.

We have made no remarks upon the destruction of animal life by means of deadly poisons, as such agents cannot, with safety, be placed in the hands of the unskilled. Neither have we spoken of the use of various gases as a means of humane destruction, such means not being at the disposal of the people generally.

Shooting Clubs.

These organizations for "sport" have often been condemned in these columns, and we think many men have been induced to discontinue their connection with them. In other States they are still in existence. Recently the New Jersey Sportman's Club petitioned the board of aldermen of Jersey City for permission to shoot within the city limits on their "field days."

The New Jersey Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals thus remonstrated:—

To the Honorable the Board of Aldermen of Jersey City,—

Gentlemen,—I have been informed that a company of gentlemen, calling themselves a sporting club, intend to petition your honorable body for permission to violate the city ordinance in relation to the firing of fire-arms, doubtless for the purpose of shooting pigeons, at a match for sport (so called) or a wager.

Now it becomes my duty to send to your honorable body a most earnest protest to the granting of said request. It has been a source of great gratification to the mass of your constituents that this ordinance, without any other interference, would forever prevent this inhuman and brutal practice, at least within the limits of this city; and in their name I do most earnestly hope you will not permit the violation of the law for a purpose so universally condemned. Therefore, I do most earnestly pray your honorable body not to grant said petition. Jersey City has a record for humanity in her protection of the feeble and the dumb that few cities can boast, and I sincerely trust that it will not be so easily thrown away. Your action in this matter will go forth to the community, and must receive their condemnation or approval. I pray you let it be on the side of peace, law, kindness and humanity toward the poor and helpless birds that this sporting club proposes to torture, mutilate and destroy. Thanking you, gentlemen, for your aid and co-operation in the past, and earnestly petitioning it for the future, I subscribe myself the friend of the poor and dumb, be they brute or bird.

J. J. YOULIN,
President of the Hudson County S.P.C.A.

We are glad to report that the aldermen denied the Sportsman's request.

In another column will be found a legal decision in regard to pigeon shooting.

Millard Fillmore.

The following resolutions have been adopted by the Buffalo Branch of the Woman's Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals:

Whereas, In the death of Ex-President Fillmore this Society has lost an able and earnest friend, a wise councillor and a constant contributor, we deem it proper to render a brief tribute to his memory

Resolved, That while we submit to the divine decree in the removal of the distinguished citizen who has filled the highest offices in the nation's gift, whose many virtues are universally known and acknowledged, we feel that we have met an irreparable loss which nothing can supply but the divine gift of other men of the like ability, integrity, humanity and zeal in the cause of the dumb sufferers who have so long groaned under the tyranny of man, "travailing in pain together until now," when, owing to the efforts of such men as Millard Fillmore and Henry Bergh, the dawn of hope has appeared for the lower creatures.

Resolved, That the rooms of the Society be draped in mourning for thirty days, as a slight memorial of our great grief for his loss.

Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with the family of our departed friend, and especially with Mrs. Fillmore, who has ever manifested with her husband, a deep interest in our cause.

Receipts by the Treasurer in February and March.

Mrs. William Appleton, $1,000; Misses Wigglesworth, $500; William R. Robeson, $100; John C. Gray, $100; Miss Inches, $20; George B. Cary, $25; George D. Oxnard, $10; Mrs. B. D. Greene, $20; Charles P. Curtis, $20; A. W. Spencer, $25; Greely S. Curtis, $50; George H. Kuhn, $50; Henry P. Kidder, $200; Miss Blanchard, $20; Mrs. Harriet Putnam, $50; Dr. F. Minot, $10; Misses May, $50; Mrs. William H. Browne, $10; Joseph B. Glover, $100; A. C. Wheelwright, $100; Samuel S. Allen, $25; J. I. Bowditch, $25; A. A. Lawrence, $50; Mrs. Fenno Tudor, $50; Miss Cairnes, $5; T. D. Quincy, $10; Charles Lyman, $100; Mrs. R. T. Paine, Jr., $25; Mrs. Caroline Merriam, $20; Turner Sargent, $30; Mrs. W. W. Tucker, $100; Mrs. Walter Farnsworth, $10; Mrs. J. Randolph Coolidge, $20; P. C. Brooks, $100; Mrs. Gibson, $5; J. Huntington Walcott, $20; Charles Brewer, $25; E. M. Brewer, $15; N. B. Gibbs, $25; E. R. Mudge, $50; Alex. Moseley, $25; Mrs. J. Sullivan Warren, $20; Misses Quincy, $20; Eastern Express Co., $25; James Lawrence, $100; A. Firth, $10; D. Nevins, Jr., $50; Mrs. S. Hooper, $50; Walter Farnsworth, $5; Miss Mary G. Chapman, $10; Miss M. J. Butler, $5; Miss Randall, $7; Peter T. Homer, $20; Mrs. H. G. Rice, $25; Miss Mary Anne Wales, $50; "Major Peter" and "Scramble," $5; Friends, $190; A. M. Howland, $25; H. N. Gridley, $10; T. Jefferson Coolidge, $100; Henry Saltonstall, $100; Dr. William R. Lawrence, $100; W. E. Russell, $20; Edw. S. Moseley, $5; Miss Eliza B. Leonard, $20; Mrs. R. M. Lawrence, $15; Stephen Salisbury, $50; Benjamin G. Smith, $5; Mrs. L. Maria Child, $20; Miss Mary Quincy, $10; Mrs. Eliza Sutton, $100; Old Lady, $2; Mrs. Dr. J. C. Dalton, $5; J. B. Bright, $20; W. H. Wood, $5; Mrs. D. W. C. Farrington, $5; Chas. Merriam, $50; Mrs. M. F. Russell, $25; C. W. Loring, $5; Davis Bros. & Co., $5; A Friend, $50; A Friend, $5; Walter C. Cabot, $50; Mrs. Prince S. Crowell, $2; Two Ladies, $10; Onslow Stearns, $10; Samuel E. Sawyer, $100; E. Whitney, $10.

Drinking Troughs.

Will our agents inform us if their towns are well supplied with drinking-troughs by the roadsides, or if any action has been taken this spring by the towns or by individuals towards erecting them.

Some agents who have had no occasion to prosecute, have conferred a public benefit by being instrumental in establishing these public conveniences in their towns.

We hope to hear of further work of this kind this season.

"A ROSE by any other name" is often quoted, and has been suggested by a letter from a lady friend in another State, who finds the people slow to make progress in favor of our cause, for which she is working. They call her persistency, after repeated failures, "dogged obstinancy." She calls it "firmness"; and she may be encouraged by another maxim, "Industry may fail, but perseverance *will prevail*."

[Chapter 57.—Acts of 1874.

AN ACT to prohibit the hunting or taking of rabbits or hares by the use of the ferret.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Whoever hunts or takes a rabbit or hare with or by the aid of a ferret shall be punished by a fine of twenty-five dollars.

Approved March 9, 1874.

Lackawanna (Pa.) Branch Society.

ORGANIZED MARCH, 1874. Office at Scranton. *President*, Dr. Charles A. Stevens; *Vice-Presidents*, Dr. B. H. Throop, U. G. Schoonmaker; *Secretary*, George Sanderson, Jr.; *Treasurer*, J. G. Sanderson, Jr.; *Managers*, William M. Silkman, J. A. Price, J. C. Burgess, A. B. Stevens, William Shannon, S. M. Nash, S. G. Barker, M. D. Botsford, J. H. Sutphin, L. S. Fuller, A. G. Gillmore, Dr. Gibbs; *Special Agents*, A. B. Stevens, W. M. Silkman.

CALIFORNIA has just passed a new anti-cruelty law, of which we hope to get the particulars soon.

SIR WALTER SCOTT lavished his affections upon dogs, and says of himself that he was so fond of them that the whole race seemed to know him, that dogs always followed him and sought to make his acquaintance, even in places where he was an entire stranger.

CASES INVESTIGATED

BY BOSTON AGENTS IN MARCH.

Whole number of complaints, 81, viz.: Overworking, 1; overloading, 2; overdriving, 2; beating, 8; driving when lame and galled, 21; failing to provide proper food and shelter, 10; torturing, 2; driving when diseased, 2; cruelty in transportation, 7; defective streets, 1; abandoning, 1; general cruelty, 24.

Remedied without prosecution, 35; not substantiated, 23; not found, 6; under investigation, 9; prosecuted, 8; convicted, 8.

Animals killed, 14; temporarily taken from work, 467.

FINES.

From Justices Courts.—Spencer, $5; Brighton (4 cases), $19; Danvers, $10; Rockport (2 cases), $10.

From Police Courts.—Somerville, $5; Salem (2 cases), $10.

From District Courts.—Northern Middlesex, $5; Eastern Hampden, $10.

From Municipal Court.—Boston (2 cases), $20.

Witness fees, $10.70.

RECEIPTS BY THE SOCIETY LAST MONTH.

[All sums of money received by the Society during the past month appear in this column, with the names, so far as known, of the persons giving or paying the same. If remittances or payments to us or our agents are not acknowledged in this column, parties will please notify the Secretary at once, in which case they will be acknowledged in the next paper. Donors are requested to send their names or initials with their donations.]

MEMBERS AND DONORS.

Susan R. Barnard, $100; N. D. Chase, $50; Francis Parkman, $20; Misses Loring, $15; Miss L. Thompson, $20; Arthur T. Lyman, $20; Mary Pratt, $25.

TEN DOLLARS EACH.

Mrs. Thomas Cole, John B. Tolman, Elizabeth S. Morton, No. Billerica, Mrs. Abel Adams, George Faulkner, Mrs. George Faulkner, A. C. Mayhew, Miss E. H. Pearson, Sam'l Williston, M. Carey Lea, Chas. Adams, Jr., J. Freeman Clarke, Mrs. Dio Lewis, A Friend, Mrs. Wm. H. Browne, Misses Shannon, Mrs. Stephen Hathaway, Jonathan Ellis, Jonathan Williams, John Collamore, Otis E. Weld, John C. Howe, Thomas P. Barnes, Otis Norcross, A Friend, Benjamin F. Wing, Chas. W. Parker, H. S. Grew, J. L. H., J. C. Burrage, W. C. B. Fifield, Stephen Salisbury, Jr., Rebecca Conant, Mrs. Alida Pierce, D. W. Simonds, J. C. Hoadley, Mrs. J. A. Davis, D. W. Salisbury, George Sampson, John B. Taft, Mrs. S. M. Hunt, Caroline Duncan, Jane F. Dow, Elizabeth Dow, Cornelia Dow, Henry G. Parker, Mrs. Jas. K. Mills.

FIVE DOLLARS EACH.

William Lathum, Mrs. Caroline A. Mason, Mrs. C. J. Pickford, W. P. Tilden, Mrs. C. F. Woodman, Mrs. M. F. Cordis, A Friend, Mrs. H. R. Keith, Miss C. Meriam, Miss H. Meriam, Mrs. E. H. Lunt, Stephen Shepley, Alvah Morrison, Mrs. John L. Roberts, Mrs. J. G. Mackintosh, Cora H. Clarke, Mary W. Whitney, Wm. C. Lawrence, Horse "Ico," Horse "Plato," T. C. Brown, N. V. Titus, George H. Bradford, Mrs. L. G. Choate, John S. Moulton, Mrs. Chas. T. White, Wm. Hale, John A. Lewis, T. C. Wales, Wm. Norris, J. W. Converse, C. M. Barrell, Joseph W. Crocker, John J. Clarke, Mrs. Wm. Gray, James Ellison, James H. Ellison, Mrs. E. W. Gay, Geo. B. Emerson, Mrs. George B. Emerson, Charles J. Sprague, F. H. Gray, Isaac Livermore, Anna C. Lowell, Mrs. B. Welles, Chester Guild, Susan I. White, Dan'l S. Curtis, M. E. C. White, A. J. Wilkinson, Henry G. Fay, Mrs. Geo. L. Davis, Mrs. S. E. Sawyer, E. B. Welch, Mrs. E. B. Welch, George F. Farley, Amos P. Tapley, C. F. Bradford, Mrs. F. A. Moseley, Robert Wood, Caroline Clark, Adelia Clark, Mary A. Clark, Roger H. Leavitt, E. Lamson Perkins, Josiah S. Robinson, John Richardson, Rufus S. Frost, P. W. S. Canfield, A. J. Carpenter, S. Griffitts Morgan, Wm. Endicott, Miss C. L. Donnison, F. A. Dewson, E. A., Abijah, Kitty White, Mrs. F. M. Reed, Francis W. Welch, Addison Gilbert, A. W. Lamson, C. W. Loring, Charles Nash, Miss E. Nash, Mrs. Prince S. Crowell, Mrs. I. H. Blake, C. A. Linnemann, C. F. Forbes, Lydia R. Swain, A. A. Burrage, Lydia D. Parker, Mrs. J. C. Johnson, Mrs. A. Bigelow, Mrs. Augusta B. Thayer, S. G. Simpkins, Delano March, George Lawton, John G. Hall & Co., Mrs. Jacob Fottler, Eliza Wagstaff, Wm. J. Foster.

Thomas Kelley, $6; Misses Piper, $4.

THREE DOLLARS EACH.

Cyrus Brewer, Francis Curtis, Geo. S. Bryant & Co.

TWO DOLLARS EACH.

Anna M. Paige, A. D. Hodges, Mrs. H. Francis, Mrs. C. W. Ranlett, Annette B. Ashby, Nellie S. Fairbanks, Mrs. T. C. Caldwell, W. H. H. Bryant, L. A. Bailey, James Dana, B——, Edwin Woods, Mrs. Nelson Parkhurst.

ONE DOLLAR EACH.

Lawrence, I. Henry Paige, E. E. Hall, A. B. Fellows, witness fees remitted, 75 cents.

CHILDREN MEMBERS—ONE DOLLAR EACH.

Geo. F. Woodman, Frank C. Woodman, Anna C. Woodman, Henry T. Rogers, Maria V. Rogers, Maggie C. Cross, Kitty Piper, Daisy Piper, Lulie Piper.

SUBSCRIBERS—ONE DOLLAR EACH.

George W. Stone, Warren Wright, Mary R. Baxter, Mrs. Wm. B. Willard, Mrs. R. N. Swift, Mrs. Wm. Cobb, I. Henry Paige, J. T. Gause, Mrs. H. C. D. King, Mrs. Geo. C. Ewing, Mrs. R. C. Hall, Lyman Adams, Mrs. L. Adams, Jr., S. M. Holmes, W. V. Munroe, Mary C. Valentine, Peter Low, Henry A. Cooke, Mrs. Daniel Dodge, Wm. C. Cutler, Mrs. G. H. Fletcher, Morris Brigham, Mrs. J. G. Waite, Mrs. Geo. R. Pevear, John S. Moulton, H. C. Kendrick, Lydia G. Randall, George B. Hyde, C. C. McIntire, E. W. Knouff, Geo. Wilson, Geo. R. Smith, Alice F. Haynes, Mary E. Wood, W. G. Todd, Meltzer A. Turner, Charlotte E. Ellison, Mary A. Ridgway, W. H. Wheeler, F. P. Sprague, T. C. S., Mrs. E. B. Rice, B. O. Wilson, Nehemiah Baker, James Dana, M. C. Stevenson, Mrs. R. W. Stackpole, Barbara H. Channing, Francis H. Turner, Francis Ham, Mrs. E. E. Mayo, Mrs. A. Bigelow, H. Sawyer, Hattie L. Battles, James Browning, H. H. Browning, Geo. M. Buttrick, J. B. S. Jackson, Nellie M. Hunt, Mrs. L. H. Broad, John P. Wingate, Mary Shannon, Sam'l W. Hodges, Annie M. Carter.

FIFTY CENTS EACH.

J. M. Gorham, H. F. Brooks, H. J. Shattuck, A. G. Wheelock, David Rice, W. H. H. Follansby, George E. Bates, A. Wheeler, Estes Hawes.

Zalmon Bonnet, $5; Mrs. T. C. Tyler, $2; Mrs. M. L. Bennett, $2; A. H. Wimbish, $3; Weare (N. H.) Society, $2.

Children's Department.

If Horses Could Talk.

* * * "Why, that's the horse, surely, that saved the old man's life, two or three years ago," said Mr. Goldilands.

"I believe it is the very same," said Uncle David. "How did he save his life, grandpapa?" asked Angela.

"Well, my dear," said her grandfather, "this old Sowerbuts had a small farm and used to go to market in those days. But he was a drunken fellow, and neglected his business and spent his money in liquor, and seldom came home sober from market. One winter's night he set out from Wimborough on this same horse, then a fine young animal, the only thing of any value on his farm. He was so drunk that it was with difficulty they got him into his saddle, and he was so unsteady when there that soon after he had passed the Wimborough Beacon toll-bar, where the road is very hilly, he tumbled off. The snow was falling heavily at the time, the night was bitterly cold, and he must have perished if his horse had not defended him, if he had not literally stood over him like a roof, and even licked the snow from his face' as the man himself told me who found him lying there in the dawn of the next day."

* * * "I do so wish horses could speak," said Angela, "for people are so unkind, and I think if they could only speak, the people would be ashamed of what they do! I always wish that poor horse that went to the horse-doctor could have spoken."

"What was that, my child?" asked her grandfather. Her brother Willie volunteered to tell the story.

"There was a horse," said he, "that used to be shod by a Mr. Gow, of Dundee, who was not only a blacksmith but a horse doctor. This horse was very ill, suffering most dreadful pain, but as it had a kind master, he let it rest all the winter, in hopes it would be well by spring. Now and then, however, it was sent over to Mr. Gow, who always gave it something that eased its pain.

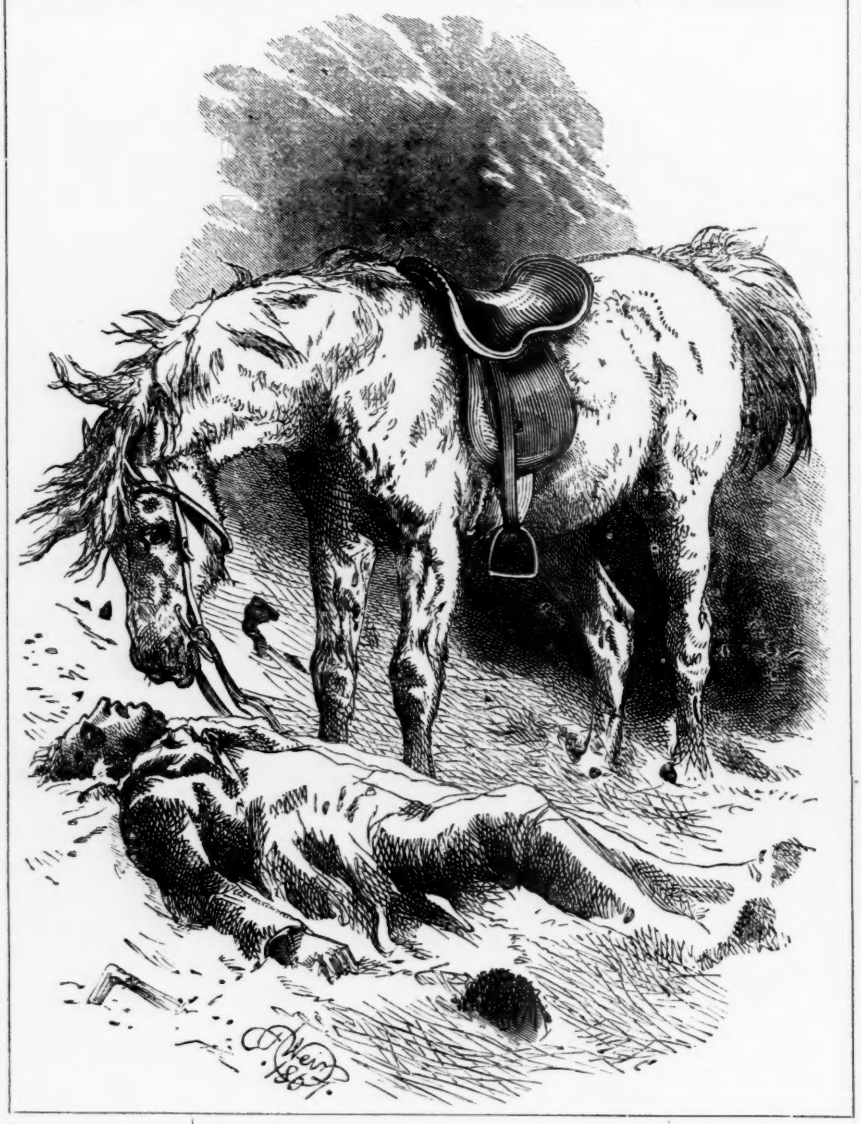
"One day, Mr. Gow's man was quite astonished to see the horse come up to the smithy, and yet nobody with him, and though it stood moaning by the door, and putting its mouth to its poor side, to show how bad it was, he was so stupid as not to understand what it meant, and so tried to drive it away, and as it still stayed and moaned and bit his side, he took a stick and made it go. The poor thing had come all that way to no purpose; it could not make the man understand; and how unkind it must have seemed! So it was forced to go home again, and there it lay down in the stable; the folks at home saw it come back, and in a quarter of an hour it was dead. Then they saw, too, what agony he must have been in before he went to the doctor, because he had broken his halter to get loose, and done something to the stable door to get out.

"So Angela thinks, grandpapa, that if horses could speak, this poor creature would have got help."

"And what lots of letters they would send up to the 'Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,' if they could only write!" said Harry Birkenshaw.

"Well, poor things," said the grandfather, "as they can neither speak nor write letters for themselves, we, who feel for them, must do what we can to help them."—*From "Our Four-Footed Friends," published by S. W. Partridge & Co., London.*

IF HORSES COULD TALK.



THE Portland Advertiser reports that as a gentleman was walking down Temple Street, in that city, on Monday, he dropped one of his mittens down a grating by the Adams House, and as it was an old one he thought he would leave it, and walked along. In a moment he felt the cold nose of a dog touch his hand, and looking down saw a Newfoundland dog looking up in his face. Paying no attention he passed along, but had not proceeded far when the dog touched him again. A third time this was repeated, when a hackman sung out, "You've lost something and that dog wants you to go and get it." The gentleman retraced his steps, recovered the mitten and the dog was satisfied.

[For Our Dumb Animals.]

He Retired to Enjoy the Fun.

The wife of the superintendent of the "Philadelphia Shelter for Lost Dogs" tells the following story of a little old black-and-tan terrier, captured about a year ago, and brought to the Shelter in the cart with other dogs.

He was so evidently a pet that the superintendent was confident he would be called for, and sure enough, a mechanic soon came to redeem him, expressing great affection for the dog as his children's playmate, which he would not part with on any account; and explaining that it was because of the carelessness of a neighbor in leaving his house that "Harry" had been left in the street the day he was captured.

A few days after, when the cart came in with its freight of unlucky dogs, little "Harry" accompanied it, trotting underneath. He had even attempted to jump in, and failing had nearly been run over, and as he was recognized by the superintendent his voluntary return was looked on as a good joke, a compliment to the whole establishment. But after this second escapade "Harry" was not called for, and as his master's residence was not known, the little dog remained for some time a guest at the "Shelter," and a great favorite. Perhaps he might be there, even now, as household pet in the superintendent's family, had it not been that that place was supplied, and that "Quick" could not tolerate any rival claimant to his basket and other privileges. So "Harry" lived among the captives in the yard and developed a peculiarity that distinguished him from all other dogs that have ever been there. It was noticed that fights became frequent. The guardians of the establishment rushing to the scene of conflict, would find two or more dogs engaged, and "Harry" quietly looking on. But in time it was discovered that he was the cause of all these disturbances, beginning each fight by an insult or aggression, generally to a large dog, and when a sufficient number were enlisted to make it exciting, "Harry" would retire to enjoy the fun. Amusing as this trait was, the results were so annoying, punishment having failed to correct the evil, that it was decided "Harry" must be sent away. A home was provided for him in Nicetown, some two miles distant; but "Harry" found that the larger field suited his tastes so well, that in a short time he came trotting back. However, his new master was determined to keep him, and he was taken back to Nicetown tied up, and after a while became so much interested in fighting ferrets that he remained and was happy. B.

PHILADELPHIA, March 3, 1874.

HE who carries ever with him the spirit of boundless charity to man often does good when he knows not of it. An influence goes forth from him which soothes the distressed, encourages the drooping, stimulates afresh the lover of virtue, and begets its own image and likeness in all beholders.

Fountains.

To show that Massachusetts is not in advance of other States in this matter, we publish the following account of the Wilmington, (Del.) Fountain Society:

This Society was the offspring of a young citizen, highly esteemed for his active, disinterested, charitable and benevolent efforts; and though his labors were suddenly and sadly terminated while in the midst of a work and labor of love, for the instruction and entertainment of the workingmen of his city, yet the name of Ferris Bringhurst, the originator and first president of the Wilmington Fountain Society will go down to posterity, in grateful remembrance. The Society was duly organized on the 24th of May, 1870. By the latter part of July, several fountains were procured and put in operation. The first of these was the very fine one now standing in front of the City Hall, which cost, in its place, $600. For it, the citizens of Wilmington are indebted to the munificent kindness of the Misses Sarah (since deceased) and Hannah Shipley. Most of the fountains put up by the Society have not only places where water for man and the larger animals can be procured, but are also provided with some nearer the ground for the smaller animals. The one erected by the contributions of the Sabbath school children, is a handsome iron, bronzed fountain, surmounted by two gas-lamps, and has a constantly flowing stream of pure, cool spring water. The gas for the lamps is furnished gratuitously by the gas company. When lighted, it is a decided ornament to that section of the city.

During the past year there has been erected and put in operation, a very substantial and beautiful memorial fountain. On one side of this fountain is the following inscription: "In Memory of Ferris Bringhust, First President of the Wilmington Fountain Society."

The Society is still working steadily and unostentatiously. There are, in all, fifteen fountains and one hydrant under the control of the Society. This number is equal, if not greater, in proportion to the number of inhabitants, to that of any of our large cities. The Society has lately met with a loss, in the sudden decease of its venerable and active co-laborer, Samuel Hilles. Truly, do these benevolent institutions add to the beauty of our city.—*Wayside.*

We, too, have met with a loss in the death of Mr. Hilles, for although not of our State, he has always been an earnest friend of our Society.

ED.

Lost His Grapes.

Frederick II. of Prussia was one day walking along the terrace at Sans Souci and noticed that his beautiful, large grapes were suffering severely under the appetites of the sparrows. Enraged at the impudent thieves he offered a price for their heads, and in a few weeks there was not a single sparrow in the royal gardens. In the following year, however, not a single grape ripened, and the Prussian monarch found that as soon as the sparrows disappeared the grubs, caterpillars and snails began to commit their depredations unmolested, and the king found out that, although the sparrows were great thieves, their useful qualities far more than counterbalanced their bad ones. He repealed his former edict, and since that time sparrows and grapes have prospered abundantly at Sans Souci.

THE VEAL SEASON is coming on, and the suffering of calves by repeated bleeding will be continued so long as people purchase white veal in preference to red. Let our agents look to this and also to the cruel method by which calves' and sheep's legs are tied while carrying them.

HALF the unhappiness of this life springs from looking back to griefs that are past, and forward with fear to the future.

The Doves of Venice.

I stood in the quiet piazza,
Where come rude noises never;
But the feet of children, the wings of doves,
Are sounding on forever.

And the cooing of their soft voices,
And the touch of the rippling sea,
And the ringing clock of the armed knight,
Came through the noon to me.

While their necks with rainbow gleaming,
'Neath the dark old arches shone,
And the campanile's shadow long,
Moved o'er the pavement stone.

And from every "coigne of vantage,"
Where lay some hidden nest,
They fluttered, peeped, and glistened forth,
Sacred, serene, at rest.

I thought of thy saint, O Venice!
Who said in his tenderness,
"I love thy birds, my Father dear,
Our lives they cheer and bless!

"For love is not for men only;
To the tiniest little things
Give room to nestle in our hearts;
Give freedom to all wings!"

And the lovely, still piazza,
Seemed with his presence blest,
And I, and the children, and the doves,
Partakers of his rest.

—*Laura Winthrop Johnson.*

A Fox-Hunt in Massachusetts.

The fox-hunt at Rutland, in this State lately, was a gay affair. A large party of ladies and gentlemen assembled at the residence of the Messrs. Pierce, where they were handsomely entertained by a ball and banquet. The next morning over two hundred persons assembled to witness the trial of hounds. A live fox, which had been obtained by Mr. Pierce, was led in a circuitous route about two miles, over the hills and through the woods and vales. At a given signal the hounds were let loose upon the track. Thirteen dogs started together, and right merrily did the air ring with their music. Most of them continued to the end of the trail, where the judges awarded premiums to the best three animals.—*Lowell Paper.*

In relation to the above, a lady friend thus writes to Mr. Angell:—

"What a 'relic of barbarism' to introduce into our enlightened Massachusetts! Thirteen fierce dogs in pursuit of one poor fox, first captured for the purpose of this cruel sport. If it had been some wild beast committing havoc in one of our remote lands, and a real danger to life and property, hunting it would have been justifiable. And ladies (?) patronizing this amusement! A woman encouraging fox-hunting in Massachusetts seems to me about on a level with her ignorant and degraded Spanish sisters presiding at their national amusement."

We cannot help asking if this did not occur in *some other* State than Massachusetts. Will some of our Rutland friends inform us.—ED.

[Correspondence.]

Sheep Shelter.

An inquiry was recently made in your paper whether sheep were unwilling to go into a building for shelter, but preferred the leeward side of a bank. I think this must be merely a pretence. Our "Flossie," my children's lamb, is very persistent in getting shelter in even a light storm. If she can, she will come into the house; or failing that, will lie down in a closed portico, between the pump and the house-wall; and I have repeatedly found her, when I opened the door to go out to walk, curled down in the porch. She has now a little house of her own, like a horse's stall.

M. O. J.

HOW many troubles might mankind be spared if they would only stop to hear each other's explanation!

STABLE AND FARM

[Translated from the German for Our Dumb Animals.]

Blindness of Horses.

It is very singular that among all our domestic animals, the horse is the one which suffers most from diseased eyes and from blindness. It is seldom that we hear of blind oxen, sheep, dogs, cats or swine.

What can be the cause of so much blindness in horses? Our answer is, that it must come from mismanagement and wrong treatment on the part of their owners.

Five reasons may be assigned for the frequency of blindness in horses. The first is, the high crib which is generally placed above the manger so that the horse must lift its head and stretch its neck to be able to pull down the hay from between the bars. Now, it often happens that a very small grain, armed with barbs, falls directly into the eye of the horse where it sticks too fast to be removed by the weeping which it causes. Inflammation sets in, and the eye is either neglected or barbarously treated by ignorant and unfeeling stable-boys.

A second cause, is the sharp, biting exhalation of the stalls in connection with the light. The development of the sharp ammoniacal gas which stings the eyes of men and causes them to shed tears, must injure the eyes of horses as well. No care is taken of the eye, already weak, the dust of the road inflames it, and the teamster does not think to alleviate the animal's pain by washing the eye with a soft sponge.

A third cause, is the bad arrangement of the stalls with regard to light. If the light is on one side, so that the horse sees it only from one eye, it is injurious. If the stall is dark, so that the horse must look into darkness, it is so contrary to nature that it must injure its eyes, particularly by the sudden change, in bringing it into the light. It is also bad to keep the animal in the full bright light. The proper way is to let the light into the stall from above, either through the roof or a high window against which the horse is placed. The stall ought always to be light, because the horse is not a nocturnal animal. The best arrangement for a horse is to leave it unfastened in a large enclosure, so that it moves freely.

The fourth and principal cause of blindness in horses is the blinder, one of the most cruel inventions ever known, as any one who understands the formation of the eye of the horse will perceive.

The fifth cause of blindness is the whip. Men and boys have the foolish habit of snapping the whip, even in sport, about the horse's head, not heeding that the end often strikes in its eye.

L. B. U.

Petroleum and Naphtha as Remedies.

The mange, so prevalent among old dogs, can be easily cured by an application of purified petroleum. Apply three times a day with a camel's hair pencil, or feather, and rub it in thoroughly. The skin is soon cleansed and the hair grows again. Naphtha has produced good results applied to the bare places on animals caused by lying, scratching, &c. They soon become soft and are covered with hair. It is also good for wounds when they are not festered. Many farmers use naphtha or petroleum to clean the legs and claws of hens and other birds.

L. B. U.

"KATE," a horse of Hartford, Conn., 38 years and nine months old, and supposed to be the oldest in the country, died on Sunday week.

In our paper of July last, is an account of a horse then living in Lexington, over 40 years old.

ED.

Pigeon-Shooting Illegal.

A decision has been made by the Marine Court of New York, recently, which indicates progress. We will give a brief history of the case. In January, 1872, a grand pigeon-shooting tournament was advertised at Fleetwood Park, N. Y. Competitors were to pay $25 entrance fee. The prizes were a silver cup and a sum of money.

The agents of the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the police, interfered and broke up the match. Ira Paine, the proprietor, sued Mr. Bergh for $1,000 damages, claiming that he had spent $200 in advertising, the cost of the cup was $400, and 1,000 pigeons cost $600. He claimed that his business was to teach gentlemen "shooting," and his counsel called him "Professor." The suit for damages has just been tried. In order that people may know the grounds upon which this "sport" is defended, we give the argument of counsel, John Develin, taken from the "New York Times," where we find a full account of the trial:—

"In opening the case the counsel for the plaintiff argued that although the philanthropist, Mr. Bergh, had the good wishes and support of the community generally, yet he, like all reformers, was liable to overstep the line, and he had in this case done so, and by so doing had invaded the rights of citizens, and set himself against field sports, and habits of years' standing of the people. The learned counsel contended that as the residents of the city had to put up with a private bath in their dwellings, in lieu of the refreshing dip in sea or lake, so the dwellers of the city who were fond of sport, had to rest satisfied with shooting at pigeons in lieu of birds in a state of nature. By the Constitution of the United States, citizens were allowed to cultivate themselves in the use of arms, and such men as 'Professor' Paine and others were only engaged in a legitimate business in thus teaching our citizens the use of fire-arms. Men were thus enabled to familiarize themselves with the gun and become good marksmen, and, if need be, become of use to our country in time of war. The counsel observed that Mr. James Gordon Bennett, who had just given $30,000 to the poor of this city, was a warm admirer of the sport, and was a pupil of the 'Professor,' the plaintiff. Mr. Bennett had shot in matches with the Duke of Hamilton and others."

The Society's officers, and the police, testified as to the method of procedure before the match was stopped, one bird having been badly wounded but not killed.

"Mr. Horace B. Claflin, a Vice-President of the Society, was then called for the defence. He stated that his country-house was situated close to Jerome Park, where numerous pigeon-shooting matches had taken place. Invariably, he said, wounded birds would fly into his grounds, some with the legs shot off, wings shattered, and bills broken.

"Mr. Gerry, counsel for the society, made a forcible argument and moved to dismiss the complaint on several grounds, but principally "that the act of 1867 against cruelty to animals, forbidding the needless mutilating or killing of any living creature, was clearly violated by the complainant. The object was not to kill the birds for human food, but simply to determine an illegal wager. It was not contended for one moment by the prosecution that the birds were killed for human food. Mr. Paine might as well take a cow and, fastening the animal to stakes in a field, give a silver cup to the sportsman who could fire the largest number of shots into the animal's body before it bled to death. There was no more real sport in mutilating and killing tame pigeons than in shooting at chickens or wrens.

"Judge McAdams promptly rendered the following decision: 'That the assemblage at Fleetwood Park on the day in question was clearly illegal, and that the shooting of the birds was a needless mutilating and killing within the statute.' His honor instructed the jury accordingly, and a verdict for defendant was entered."

In Massachusetts we had hoped public sentiment would have stopped this species of sport, but we learn that a club, composed of gentlemen of Boston and vicinity, lately had a match at Readville. If a bird is instantly killed by shot, we do not suppose we can "make a case," whatever we may think of the necessity of such sport, but if a pigeon is wounded and gets away, we see no reason why our courts should not be called upon to decide whether it is subjected to "unnecessary suffering" under the law. Parties having evidence on the subject will please apprise us.

New Hampshire Cases of Cruelty.

A correspondent of the "Dispatch," Manchester, N.H., in urging the formation of a society there, says:—

That the law for the prevention of cruelty to animals is not enforced must be clear to any one who will give the subject a moment's thought; and that cases frequently occur in which common humanity requires its interference, is too well established by facts to be denied. A case came to our knowledge last winter, where a team of two horses was left standing before the door of a saloon on Elm street through the long hours of a bitter cold night, without blankets or any other protection against the piercing wind, while the driver lay in a state of beastly—no *human*, intoxication, within. Hundreds of citizens passed the spot during the evening, but it did not concern them, as they hurried home to warm fires and cheerful sitting-rooms; officers, sworn to execute the laws, *should* have passed it every hour of the night, but no provision of the law of humanity seemed to be in their code, for the suffering team stood there until the gray dawn, when the owner came in search of it, and drove it home, alive, but badly frost-bitten. More recently a noble horse belonging to a well-known firm of this city was cruelly beaten about the head with the heavy butt of a whip-stock by his brutal driver, for not performing what the ignorance and stupidity of the driver failed to see was utterly out of his power; and the remonstrance of one or two ladies was met with a volley of oaths and coarse invectives against their "meddling" with what did not concern them. We could multiply instances similar to the above, had we space in this article.

The Calumniated Dog.

Can anybody enlighten my mind in regard to a point upon which I grope in Egyptian darkness? Can anybody tell me why the *dog* has been selected by the universal voice of mankind to embody everything that is opprobrious? Why, if one wishes to convey the extremest idea of forlornness, he should say: "It is a night in which not even a dog would be stirring"; or, "One would not even treat a dog as such a person was treated"; or, "A pittance was thrown one as you would throw a bone to a dog"; or, that such a person "leads the life of a dog"; or, has "a hang-dog look"; or, that some ne'er-do-well of a family is a "sad dog," or a "sorry dog," or a "snappish cur," or a "good-for-nothing puppy."

Now, I have reflected deeply on this *pug*nacious subject, and without a glimmer of satisfaction to my doubts. I ask, again, of this crowd of persecutors, why—*dog?* Why not cow, or ox, or horse, as well? It is my private opinion the "dog has had his day."

Let people now hit somebody of their own size. —*Fanny Fern.*

THE greatest pleasure I know is to do a good act by stealth, and have it found out.

A Woman and a Balky Horse.

BY GRACE WEBSTER HINSDALE.

* * * In front of a physician's residence stood a buggy, a fine horse and colored servant. The doctor had evidently had an urgent call and wanted to go—the horse, on the contrary, wanted to stop. I will not attempt to imagine what the necessities of the case might have been; I can think of a good many things which might appear to demand haste on the part of the doctor, and an entire self-abnegation on the part of a horse; but my reader must be content with the fact that the animal of which I write was almost human in his abominable selfishness, and wouldn't budge!

It was an occasion to stir and exasperate all the evil humors in the breasts of those two men. One expended his wrath in the most effective way he knew how, while he held the reins, the other indulged himself in an extravagant exercise of his boots. In fact, they made "an exhaustive statement of their opinion" to that balky animal in the most explicit language which they knew how to address to the brute; still, that defiant horse maintained his independence of all coercion, and stood before the door waiting his own consent to depart. It would not come! The negro at the bridle and the doctor in the gig were in a pitiable, not to say ridiculous, condition of dismay and discouragement.

My sympathy was about equally divided between the doctor and his patient and the horse; for the irritated descendent of Ham, who used his boots with such incessant and unmitigated severity, I felt no anxiety or tenderness. * * * *

With a proud consciousness of my ability to start the doctor on his errand and the horse on the road, I advanced to the edge of the sidewalk and called out to the man who held that triumphant animal by the head. Down went his upraised foot, while, in as concise a manner as possible, I presented my views of the difficulty and its probable relief.

I remarked (what the poor fellow already knew) that the horse was determined not to go; but then, after this apparently unnecessary introduction, I advised a prompt and absolute diversion of the animal from his present state of mind. I inquired if he had a string in his pocket; fortunately he had just what was needed. "Now," I said, "wind that little cord pretty tightly round one of the horse's ears, and, I think, the trouble for this time will be over."

With a curious expression, which I should enjoy seeing well represented on canvas, the man obeyed. What faith the doctor had I don't know, but he lifted the reins invitingly, and without the slightest acknowledgment to me drove down the avenue. The negro looked after him in utter amazement, once in awhile turning to gaze at the woman who had ventured a suggestion. The horse had a wide-awake expression about his ears and in his action, but behaved with all evidence of good-nature—his mind was diverted effectually, though not in a manner to frighten him or to rouse his vicious qualities.

A grocer had stopped his cart to enjoy the contest, and seeing the stubborn creature so simply controlled, he jumped from his wagon, and coming close to me, exclaimed: "Well, I never saw the beat of that!" "You can try it," I said, "and very often you'll succeed; if a horse balks, divert his mind from his determination. Tying a string round his ear (and leaving it there, not pulling it), will set him thinking about that, and he will forget that he meant to stand still all the afternoon!"

Did you ever try this principle of diversion on balky children?—*Hearth and Home.*

THE contented man is never poor, the discontented never rich.

IT is a good and safe rule to sojourn in every place as if you meant to spend your life there, never omitting an opportunity of doing a kindness, or speaking a true word, or making a friend. Seeds thus sown by the wayside often bring forth an abundant harvest.